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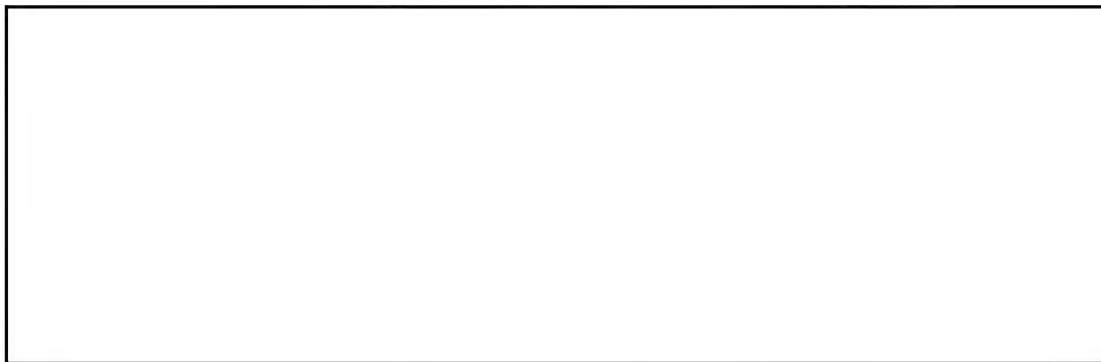
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25X1A

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CONTENTS

25X1

2. COMMENT ON SOVIET-EAST GERMAN TREATY (page 4).

25X1

21 Sept 55

Current Intelligence Bulletin

Page 2

25X1A
Approved For Release 2004/01/16 : CIA-RDP79T00975A002200170001-8

25X1

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2. COMMENT ON SOVIET-EAST GERMAN TREATY

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[REDACTED] The treaty concluded in Moscow on 20 September by the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic places East Germany in a status similar to that of the European Satellites. The 400,000-man Soviet army in East Germany will remain temporarily, according to the treaty. The treaty removes all other overt vestiges of Soviet control.

The Soviet Union clearly intends to use the troop issue in negotiations to persuade the West to withdraw forces from West Germany and dissolve NATO. Khrushchev has stated that Soviet troops will be withdrawn whenever the Western powers are prepared to reciprocate.

Letters accompanying the treaty provide that East Germany shall have control over all communications traversing its territory between the Federal Republic and West Berlin. This control is to extend to air transportation, but the access of the goods and persons of the Allied forces in West Berlin will remain subject to Soviet control "pending a special agreement." In its varied efforts to force recognition by the West German government, East Germany will probably increase its assertion of control over West German traffic. A communiqué issued at the conclusion of the talks stated that the USSR is considering favorably the question of German prisoners of war and will submit its proposals to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet. [REDACTED]

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